

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR SUBXIPHOID ENDOSCOPIC ACCESS

the specification of which (check one) X is attached hereto or ___ was filed on ___ as Application No. ___ and was amended on ___ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
			Yes	No
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	_____	_____
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) below.

60/150,737 August 25, 1999
Application Number Filing Date

60/148,130 August 10, 1999
Application Number Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Number	Filing Date	Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned
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1. **Introduction**
 2. **Background**
 3. **Methodology**
 4. **Results**
 5. **Discussion**
 6. **Conclusion**
 7. **References**
 8. **Appendix**
 9. **Index**
 10. **Table of Contents**
 11. **Abstract**
 12. **Summary**
 13. **Key Words**
 14. **Keywords**
 15. **Subject Headings**
 16. **Classification**
 17. **Indexing**
 18. **Keywords**
 19. **Subject Headings**
 20. **Classification**
 21. **Indexing**
 22. **Keywords**
 23. **Subject Headings**
 24. **Classification**
 25. **Indexing**
 26. **Keywords**
 27. **Subject Headings**
 28. **Classification**
 29. **Indexing**
 30. **Keywords**
 31. **Subject Headings**
 32. **Classification**
 33. **Indexing**
 34. **Keywords**
 35. **Subject Headings**
 36. **Classification**
 37. **Indexing**
 38. **Keywords**
 39. **Subject Headings**
 40. **Classification**
 41. **Indexing**
 42. **Keywords**
 43. **Subject Headings**
 44. **Classification**
 45. **Indexing**
 46. **Keywords**
 47. **Subject Headings**
 48. **Classification**
 49. **Indexing**
 50. **Keywords**
 51. **Subject Headings**
 52. **Classification**
 53. **Indexing**
 54. **Keywords**
 55. **Subject Headings**
 56. **Classification**
 57. **Indexing**
 58. **Keywords**
 59. **Subject Headings**
 60. **Classification**
 61. **Indexing**
 62. **Keywords**
 63. **Subject Headings**
 64. **Classification**
 65. **Indexing**
 66. **Keywords**
 67. **Subject Headings**
 68. **Classification**
 69. **Indexing**
 70. **Keywords**
 71. **Subject Headings**
 72. **Classification**
 73. **Indexing**
 74. **Keywords**
 75. **Subject Headings**
 76. **Classification**
 77. **Indexing**
 78. **Keywords**
 79. **Subject Headings**
 80. **Classification**
 81. **Indexing**
 82. **Keywords**
 83. **Subject Headings**
 84. **Classification**
 85. **Indexing**
 86. **Keywords**
 87. **Subject Headings**
 88. **Classification**
 89. **Indexing**
 90. **Keywords**
 91. **Subject Headings**
 92. **Classification**
 93. **Indexing**
 94. **Keywords**
 95. **Subject Headings**
 96. **Classification**
 97. **Indexing**
 98. **Keywords**
 99. **Subject Headings**
 100. **Classification**
 101. **Indexing**
 102. **Keywords**
 103. **Subject Headings**
 104. **Classification**
 105. **Indexing**
 106. **Keywords**
 107. **Subject Headings**
 108. **Classification**
 109. **Indexing**
 110. **Keywords**
 111. **Subject Headings**
 112. **Classification**
 113. **Indexing**
 114. **Keywords**
 115. **Subject Headings**
 116. **Classification**
 117. **Indexing**
 118. **Keywords**
 119. **Subject Headings**
 120. **Classification**
 121. **Indexing**
 122. **Keywords**
 123. **Subject Headings**
 124. **Classification**
 125. **Indexing**
 126. **Keywords**
 127. **Subject Headings**
 128. **Classification**
 129. **Indexing**
 130. **Keywords**
 131. **Subject Headings**
 132. **Classification**
 133. **Indexing**
 134. **Keywords**
 135. **Subject Headings**
 136. **Classification**
 137. **Indexing**
 138. **Keywords**
 139. **Subject Headings**
 140. **Classification**
 141. **Indexing**
 142. **Keywords**
 143. **Subject Headings**
 144. **Classification**
 145. **Indexing**
 146. **Keywords**
 147. **Subject Headings**
 148. **Classification**
 149. **Indexing**
 150. **Keywords**
 151. **Subject Headings**
 152. **Classification**
 153. **Indexing**
 154. **Keywords**
 155. **Subject Headings**
 156. **Classification**
 157. **Indexing**
 158. **Keywords**
 159. **Subject Headings**
 160. **Classification**
 161. **Indexing**
 162. **Keywords**
 163. **Subject Headings**
 164. **Classification**
 165. **Indexing**
 166. **Keywords**
 167. **Subject Headings**
 168. **Classification**
 169. **Indexing**
 170. **Keywords**
 171. **Subject Headings**
 172. **Classification**
 173. **Indexing**
 174. **Keywords**
 175. **Subject Headings**
 176. **Classification**
 177. **Indexing**
 178. **Keywords**
 179. **Subject Headings**
 180. **Classification**
 181. **Indexing**
 182. **Keywords**
 183. **Subject Headings**
 184. **Classification**
 185. **Indexing**
 186. **Keywords**
 187. **Subject Headings**
 188. **Classification**
 189. **Indexing**
 190. **Keywords**
 191. **Subject Headings**
 192. **Classification**
 193. **Indexing**
 194. **Keywords**
 195. **Subject Headings**
 196. **Classification**
 197. **Indexing**
 198. **Keywords**
 199. **Subject Headings**
 200. **Classification**
 201. **Indexing**
 202. **Keywords**
 203. **Subject Headings**
 204. **Classification**
 205. **Indexing**
 206. **Keywords**
 207. **Subject Headings**
 208. **Classification**
 209. **Indexing**
 210. **Keywords**
 211. **Subject Headings**
 212. **Classification**
 213. **Indexing**
 214. **Keywords**
 215. **Subject Headings**
 216. **Classification**
 217. **Indexing**
 218. **Keywords**
 219. **Subject Headings**
 220. **Classification**
 221. **Indexing**
 222. **Keywords**
 223. **Subject Headings**
 224. **Classification**
 225. **Indexing**
 226. **Keywords**
 227. **Subject Headings**
 228. **Classification**
 229. **Indexing**
 230. **Keywords**
 231. **Subject Headings**
 232. **Classification**
 233. **Indexing**
 234. **Keywords**
 235. **Subject Headings**
 236. **Classification**
 237. **Indexing**
 238. **Keywords**
 239. **Subject Headings**
 240. **Classification**
 241. **Indexing**
 242. **Keywords**
 243. **Subject Headings**
 244. **Classification**
 245. **Indexing**
 246. **Keywords**
 247. **Subject Headings**
 248. **Classification**
 249. **Indexing**
 250. **Keywords**
 251. **Subject Headings**

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